

**United States Consulate General
1075 West Pender Street
Vancouver, B.C.
V6E 2M6**

HOW TO APPLY FOR A U.S. VISA IN VANCOUVER

WHAT TO BRING:

You must present the following when you apply for a visa regardless of age.

- 1) Completed application form (OF-156) for each applicant (overleaf).
- 2) Passport or Travel Document which is **valid for at least six months**.
- 3) Attach one recent photograph with white background, passport size and style.
- 4) If resident in Canada, your original landed immigrant papers, Minister's permit or Canadian student/employment authorization.
- 5) \$45.00 U.S. **nonrefundable application fee** per applicant (exact cash in U.S. currency only; bank or postal money order will be accepted only for mail-in applications).
- 6) Applicants for visitor's visas must demonstrate social and economic ties to a country outside the U.S., including proof of employment or the source of financial support. Dependant children and spouses must also provide proof of support.
- 7) Students in Canada must provide proof that they are enrolled.
- 8) Applicants with previous U.S. visa(s) should present that visa, no matter where issued. A photocopy of the visa page is not sufficient.

Additional documentary requirements for applicants who are not applying for visitor's visas will vary according to visa type. For information for other visa categories, please see "Questions?" below.

**YOUR APPLICATION MAY BE REFUSED
DO NOT MAKE IRREVOCABLE TRAVEL PLANS
PRIOR TO OBTAINING YOUR VISA**

Applications that fail to meet the above documentary requirements will not be accepted. In all cases, the consul may request additional information or documentation before making a final decision on your application. There is no guarantee that you will receive a visa when/if you apply.

If the consul is unable to determine that you qualify for a visa, the consul will refuse your application. The consul may recommend that you apply for the visa in your country of permanent residence or recommend that you establish better ties to Canada before you reapply. **Under no circumstances will we refund the \$45.00 application fee if your application is refused.**

Canadian citizens and landed immigrants from Commonwealth countries do not require U.S. visas and should proceed directly to a U.S. port-of-entry.

WHEN TO APPLY:

We accept applications by appointment. You must have an appointment if you are not a Canadian landed immigrant, or a holder of a valid Canadian work or student authorization. Appointments can be made at our website: **www.nvars.com** (flat rate charge per person or family); or by telephoning: **1-900-451-2778 from Canada or 1-900-443-3131 from the U.S.A** (per minute toll charge) or by credit card by calling **1-888-840-0032** (per minute charge). The appointment letter, application form and instructions will be mailed directly to you. If you do not receive this information before your appointment date, we will ask you for your "reference number" when you apply. Depending on availability, you are able to schedule an appointment within two calendar days.

We accept applications from Canadian landed immigrants and holders of a valid Canadian work or student authorization without an appointment, TUE 8:30am - 11:30am, WED, THURS, FRI 9:30am - 11:30am. If you want to apply on a Monday, you must make an appointment.

WE ARE CLOSED AMERICAN AND CANADIAN HOLIDAYS

WHEN THE VISA WILL BE READY:

If you walk-in and apply without an appointment, you will usually be able to pick up your passport in **1-2 working days**. Barring circumstances beyond our control, you will be able to pick up your passport with the visa on the same day if you had an appointment for a visa interview. We will only return passports with visas between 3:00 - 3:30 in the afternoon.

We are not able to process visa applications faster than indicated. Plan accordingly. If you require same-day service, you must make an appointment.

If you would prefer that we return your passport by mail (Canada only), provide a pre-paid, self-addressed envelope large enough to return your passport and supporting material. We recommend registered mail or priority courier mail service, available at the post office. **If you do not provide sufficient postage, we will not return your passport to you by mail.**

MAIL-IN SERVICE (FOR LANDED IMMIGRANTS ONLY):

Landed immigrants may apply by mail. Send your application and supporting material to the address above. Include with your application a pre-paid, self-addressed envelope as described above.

Please bear in mind that although most applications which we receive by mail will be processed within two weeks of receipt, internal processing requirements can cause delays of up to 20 working days (one month). It is your responsibility to send your application to the Consulate General far enough in advance for processing and mailing.

QUESTIONS?

Please phone **1-900-451-6663 from Canada, or 1-900-656-2222 from the U.S.A.** (per minute toll charge). Or visit the information window located at 1095 W. Pender St., 20th floor, Mon - Fri, 8:00am - 12:00 noon; or email us at: **vancouverNIV@state.gov** or visit one of the following sites:
www.usembassycanada.gov
travel.state.gov
ins.usdoj.gov

1. SURNAMES OR FAMILY NAMES (Exactly as in Passport)		17. Bearers of visitors visas may generally not work in the U.S. DO YOU INTEND TO WORK IN THE U.S.? <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes If Yes, please explain:		29. IMPORTANT: ALL APPLICANTS MUST READ AND CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX FOR EACH ITEM: A visa may not be issued to persons who are within specific categories defined by law as inadmissible to the United States (except when a waiver is obtained in advance). Are any of the following applicable to you? :	
2. FIRST NAME AND MIDDLE NAME (Exactly as in Passport)		18. DO YOU INTEND TO STUDY IN THE U.S.? <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes (If Yes, give name and address of school as it appears on form I-20)		• Have you ever been afflicted with a communicable disease of public health significance, a dangerous physical or mental disorder, or been a drug abuser or addict? [212(a)(1)] No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	
3. OTHER NAMES (Maiden, Religious, Professional Aliases)				• Have you ever been arrested or convicted for any offense or crime, even though subject of a pardon, amnesty, or other similar legal action? Have you ever lawfully distributed or sold a controlled substance (drug), or been a prostitute or a procurer for prostitutes? [212(a)(2)] No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	
4. DATE OF BIRTH (Day, Month, Year)		8. PASSPORT NUMBER		• Do you seek to enter the United States to engage in export control violations, subversive or terrorist activities, or any other unlawful purpose? Are you a member or representative of a terrorist organization as currently designated by the U.S. Secretary of State? Have you ever participated in persecutions directed by the Nazi government of Germany, or have you ever participated in genocide? [212(a)(3)] No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	
5. PLACE OF BIRTH City, Province Country		DATE PASSPORT ISSUED (Day, Month, Year)		• Have you ever been refused admission to the U.S., been the subject of a deportation hearing, or sought to obtain a visa or any U.S. immigration benefit by fraud or wilful misrepresentation? Have you attended a U.S. public elementary school on student (F) status, or a public secondary school without reimbursing the school after November 30, 1996? [212(a)(6)] No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	
6. NATIONALITY		7. SEX <input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female		• Have you ever departed or remained outside the United States to avoid military service? [212(a)(8)]. No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	
9. HOME ADDRESS (Include apartment No., street, city, province and postal code)		DATE PASSPORT EXPIRES (Day, Month, Year)		• Have you ever violated the terms of a U.S. visa, or been unlawfully present in, or deported from, the U.S.A.? [212(a)(9)] No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	
10. NAME AND ADDRESS OF PRESENT EMPLOYER OR SCHOOL (Postal Box Number unacceptable)		20. WHO WILL FURNISH FINANCIAL SUPPORT, INCLUDING TICKETS?		• Have you ever withheld custody of a U.S. citizen child outside the United States from a person granted legal custody by a U.S. court, voted in the United States in violation of any law or regulation, or renounced U.S. citizenship for the purpose of avoiding taxation? [212(a)(10)] No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	
11. HOME TELEPHONE		12. BUSINESS TELEPHONE		A YES answer does not automatically signify ineligibility for a visa, but if you answered YES to any of the above, or if you have any question in this regard, personal appearance at this office is recommended. If appearance is not possible at this time, attach a statement of facts in your case to the application.	
13. MARITAL STATUS <input type="checkbox"/> Married <input type="checkbox"/> Single <input type="checkbox"/> Widowed <input type="checkbox"/> Divorced <input type="checkbox"/> Separated If married, give name and nationality of spouse		21. AT WHAT ADDRESS WILL YOU STAY IN THE U.S.A.?		30. I certify that I have read and understand all of the questions set forth in this application and the answers I have furnished on this form are true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief. I understand that any false or misleading statement may result in permanent ineligibility for a visa or denial of entry into the United States. I understand that possession of a visa does not entitle the bearer to enter the United States of America upon arrival at port of entry if he or she is found inadmissible.	
14. NAMES AND RELATIONSHIPS OF PERSONS TRAVELING WITH YOU (A separate application must be made for a visa for each traveller regardless of age)		22. WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF YOUR TRIP?		Date of Application: _____	
		23. WHEN DO YOU INTEND TO ARRIVE IN THE U.S.A.?		APPLICANT'S SIGNATURE: _____ If this application has been prepared by a travel agency or another person on your behalf, the agent should indicate the name and address of the agency, or the person, with appropriate signature of the person preparing the form.	
		24. HOW LONG DO YOU PLAN TO STAY IN THE U.S.A.?		Signature of person preparing form: _____ (If other than applicant)	
15. HAVE YOU EVER APPLIED FOR A U.S. VISA? <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes TYPE OF VISA? _____ WHERE? _____ WHEN? _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Visa Was Issued <input type="checkbox"/> Visa Was Refused		25. HAVE YOU EVER BEEN IN THE U.S.A.? <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes WHEN? _____ HOW LONG? _____			
16. HAS YOUR U.S. VISA EVER BEEN CANCELLED? <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes WHERE? _____ WHEN? _____ BY WHOM? _____		26. HAVE YOU OR ANYONE ACTING FOR YOU EVER INDICATED TO A U.S. CONSULAR OR IMMIGRATION EMPLOYEE A DESIRE TO IMMIGRATE TO THE U.S. OR HAVE YOU EVER ENTERED A U.S. VISA LOTTERY? <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes HAS ANYONE EVER FILED AN IMMIGRANT VISA PETITION ON YOUR BEHALF? <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes HAS A LABOR CERTIFICATION FOR EMPLOYMENT IN THE U.S. EVER BEEN REQUESTED BY YOU OR ON YOUR BEHALF? <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes			
<div>37mm X 37mm PHOTO GLUE PHOTO HERE</div>		27. ARE ANY OF THE FOLLOWING PERSONS IN THE U.S., RESIDE IN THE U.S., OR HAVE U.S. LEGAL PERMANENT RESIDENCE? (Circle YES or NO and indicate that person's status in the U.S., i.e. studying, working, permanent resident, U.S. citizen, etc.) Husband/ Fiance/ Brother/ NO YES Wife _____ NO YES Fiancee _____ NO YES Sister _____ Mother/ Son/ NO YES Father _____ NO YES Daughter _____			
		28. WHERE HAVE YOU LIVED FOR THE PAST FIVE YEARS? DO NOT INCLUDE PLACES YOU HAVE VISITED FOR PERIODS OF SIX MONTHS OR LESS. Countries Cities Approximate Dates			
FORM OF-156Y (VAC 2/99)		THIS FORM MAY NOT BE ACCEPTED AT ALL EMBASSIES OR CONSULATES.			